

**REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 9, 2019**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 9, 2019, immediately following the Work Session at the Edward Pope Conference Center. Mayor Ames Barnett presided.

Present were Mayor Barnett and council members Armour, Armour, Cullars, Hill, Mahoney and Scarborough. Also present were City Administrator Bailey, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors present are listed in the minutes of the Work Session held on December 9, 2019.

City Attorney Fleming opened the meeting in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES APPROVED:** On motion by R. Armour, second by Scarborough, council approved 6 to 0 minutes of previous meetings as presented. It was noted that there were no minutes submitted as information from the DDA.

**AGENDA APPROVED:** On motion by T. Armour, second by Mahoney, council approved 6 to 0 the meeting agenda, removing an item under Council Member Mahoney concerning Norman Street property.

**MAYOR'S TOPICS:** Mayor Barnett requested council approval of a time change for the January 13, 2020, Regular Meeting of Council to 6 PM. On motion by Scarborough, second by Mahoney, council approved request 6 to 0.

Mayor Barnett reminded those present of the upcoming Christmas Parade of Lights on December 14, 2019, beginning at 6 PM.

Mayor Barnett also reminded those present of the Open House for the new Fire Station on December 18, 2019, at 5 PM.

**JUDY ANDERSON:** Judy Anderson thanked out-going city officials, Barnett, Tutt, Armour, Scarborough and Bailey and advised that their service had been greatly appreciated.

**TOPICS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL:**

**MAHONEY:** Council member Mahoney discussed issues with a mobile home on Peachtree Street. Code Enforcement and Building Official personnel have been working with this home owner; however, it has been a slow process due to unfortunate circumstances.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR TOPICS:**

**ORDINANCE CHAPTER 42: HISTORIC PRESERVATION.** City Administrator Bailey reviewed with council a revision to Chapter 42, Historic Preservation, of the City of Washington Code of Ordinances. These revisions are in line with State guidelines from the Department of Natural Resources and have been reviewed and updated by Anne Floyd of the Regional Commission. On motion by Cullars, second by Hill, council approved Chapter 42 revisions to the City of Washington Code of Ordinances 6 to 0. A copy of the ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

**ORDINANCE CHAPTER 6-13: ALCOHOL/BRUNCH BILL:** On motion by Cullars, second by R. Armour, council approved 5 to 1 amendment to Chapter 6-13 of the Code of Ordinances as approved by voters in the November 2019 election. Council member T. Armour voted against the motion. Amendment follows:

WHEREAS, the City of Washington desires to amend Section 6-13© of the Code of Ordinances related to hours of operation for businesses licensed for alcohol consumption on the premises; and

WHEREAS, a referendum was approved by the voters of the City of Washington on November 5, 2019 to allow the consumption on the premises of alcoholic beverages on Sundays from 11:00 AM until 12 Midnight in licensed establishments by a vote of 1010 in favor and 469 opposed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Washington as follows:

Section 6-13. – Hours of Operation of the Code of Ordinances shall be amended to read as follows:

(c ) Consumption on the premises. No Distilled spirits, malt beverages or wine shall be sold for consumption on the premises except between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2 a.m. of the following morning on Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. on Saturday and 1:00 a.m. of the following Sunday morning, and between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight on Sunday. Each

and every person shall be required to vacate the premises no later than one hour past any required closing time.

All portions of this Code in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

The foregoing Ordinance was adopted on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2019, by a vote of 5 “yea” and 1 “nay”.

**2019 CDBG LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN:** On motion by R. Armour, second by Cullars, council approved 6 to 0 the 2019 CDBG Language Access plan in the southwest Washington target area. A copy of the plan is on file in the minutes file in the Office of the City Clerk.

**GMA EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM:** On motion by Cullars, second by Mahoney, council approved 6 to 0 to have GMA move forward with necessary paperwork to approve an Early Retirement Incentive package for the Rule of 80 as of December 31, 2019. When paperwork is received from GMA a called meeting will be scheduled to handle this matter.

**2020 BUDGET APPROVAL:** City Administrator Bailey requested council approval of the 2020 City Budget. The budget for 2020 is some \$22.8 million with some \$3.2 million in transfers between funds for a net budget of \$19.6 million. Budget as presented has no utility rate increases and has a 1.5% Cost of Living increase for employees. Capital items in the budget total some \$229,250 for equipment and service extension and \$187,335 in street improvements, TSPLOST and LMIG.

Council members Mahoney and Hill voiced concern over the \$8500 budgeted for a Dog Park. Mahoney also mentioned ongoing work in the cemeteries that need completion.

On motion by Scarborough, second by R. Armour, council approved budget 5 to 1. Council member Cullars voted against the motion.

**MAYOR’S CLOSING COMMENTS:** Mayor Barnett closed the meeting by highlighting successes over the past twelve years that he has served in an elected official capacity and thanked the citizens for their support through the years. Barnett also thanked his wife and children, as they have also sacrificed so that he could serve as an elected official.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Council meeting adjourned at 4:01 PM.

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MAYOR

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CLERK